PBSO FTO Program Gets A Facelift

Lieutenant Kevin O’Brien

In January of 2017, The Palm Beach County Sheriff’s Office Field Training Unit will get a much needed “face-lift”, by the use of an improved automated daily evaluation and reporting system known as ADORE. Automated Daily Observation Report, or ADORE for short, is a trusted program that utilizes “cold fusion” technology to assist Law Enforcement and Corrections FTO Units to maintain an up to date, real time recording of Daily Evaluation Reports for Field Training Officers and Trainees.

The program started out as a computer based, multi-licensed, in house system of recording evaluations for trainees and Field Training Officers. The Law Enforcement FTO Program looked to the future and purchased a first edition web-based version of ADORE in 2007. Since then ADORE has improved and now with version 8.0 FTO’s are able to log on from any Internet ready computer and create daily evaluations, monitor trainee’s performance in the program and create weekly summaries of a new deputy’s training. The addition of ADORE has proved to be indispensable. The two disciplines will be able to use the same platform at the start of the next new hire class in July 2017.

Sergeants Academy

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Over the past two years, with the new administration in FTO, we have created an outstanding academy for newly promoted Sergeants. This in-house academy includes instruction that covers leadership principles, effective strategies in counseling for affecting positive employee behavior, and topics to help them understand their new duties and responsibilities.

Leadership reading material borrowed from military reading lists is introduced to new sergeants who are encouraged to read and seek growth. A comprehensive 3-day course for Sergeants introduces them to the key personnel in the Agency that will have a profound impact on them as supervisors, and gives them a chance to learn about the policies that effect the daily operation of a very large Sheriff’s Office.
FTO Program Plays An Important Role in Mergers

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Over the past several years PBSO has merged forces with several cities and towns to handle their law enforcement needs. The LE FTO Program has been intrinsically involved in each of these mergers. Our biggest to date was the acquisition of Greenacres Police Department (Public Safety). We were involved with training 52 officers over a very short period of time. We were tasked with preparing the officers to become effective deputies in a large organization such as PBSO. Several Corporals and Sergeants were sent in as a “training team” to get the officers squared away and on track. They were very successful in training the officers. After the merger training ended FTOs remained at Greenacres to ensure the transition held strong.

The other mergers included Lake Park PD, Royal Palm Beach PD, Belle Glade PD, South Bay PD, Pahokee PD and Mangonia Park PD and Lake Worth PD to round out the agencies. The Sheriff’s Office has the talent and the ability to effectively patrol the streets of Palm Beach County and our Field Training Officers are at the forefront of training the newest additions to the PBSO family.

Training Second to None for Corporals

Each quarter members of PBSO LE and COR FTO attend training geared at the hot topic issues, team building skills, knowledge base testing and other various issues and topics that are needed to improve the overall quality of the program. The training, both educational and fun, is headed by the Field Training Coordinator, Sgt. Jeff Israel and Sgt. Andy Noll, both veterans of PBSO with over 35 years of combined experience. A key component of the training is the inclusion of team-building exercises used to foster greater understanding of each other’s strengths and weaknesses. Areas that are of vital importance to FTO’s are also taught to ensure we are giving the trainees the very best training and knowledge we can. Guided by accreditation, the training is also a necessity in maintaining a passing grade with the State of Florida accreditation standards for training.

Give us a call at 561-242-5814 today to see what new and exciting things are happening in the Field Training Program. We’d love to hear from you.

Lt. Kevin O’Brien
Commander | FTO Unit